

RECEIVED
AUG 07 2001
Technology Center 2600

Toshiyuki Sano et al.

Art Unit: To be assigned

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty Docket: 0402/00620

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

For insuring compliance with the applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56, the undersigned hereby submits the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner in charge of the above-identified patent application.

The listing of these materials is not to be construed as an admission that such is actually prior art with respect to the invention of the present application and is not to be construed that such is material with respect to the present invention.

These documents are being submitted (check only one of the next four boxes):

- ☐ within three months of the filing of the above U.S. national application or of the date of entry of the U.S. national stage in an International Patent Application (no fee is due);
- ☒ before receiving a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified patent application (no fee is due);
- ☐ following receipt of a first Office Action, but before issuance of a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance (if this box is checked, the fee box and one of the last two boxes also must be checked);

OR

- ☐ following receipt of a Notice of Allowance or a Final Office Action (if this box is checked, the next box and one of the last two boxes also must be checked).

FEE

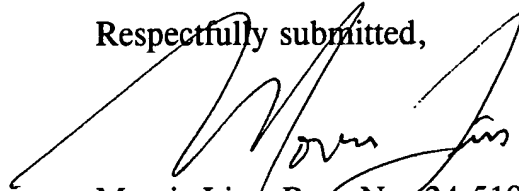
- ☐ Our Check in the amount of \$180.00 is attached in payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- ☒ The undersigned certifies that each item of this information is being submitted within three months of the date it was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.
- ☐ The undersigned certifies that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three monthsh prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any deficiency in the above fee(s) or to charge any additional fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 or 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 22-0185. A duplicate copy of this authorization is attached for the Finance Branch.

Respectfully submitted,



Morris Liss, Reg. No. 24,510
Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP
1990 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-3425
Telephone: 202-331-7111

Date: